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Advancement of women

Future operations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 60/229 and 61/273. Under the guidance of its Executive Board, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), has developed its strategic framework for the period 2008-2011, expanding its research activities to new areas in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

In the period 2006-2007, INSTRAW continued to collaborate with United Nations system entities, international cooperation agencies, other international organizations, governmental institutions, national gender machineries, research and training institutes, civil society organizations and the private sector. In the area of gender, migration, remittances and development, INSTRAW actively contributed to intergovernmental discussions on issues related to international migration and development, including the 2006 High-level Dialogue thereon and the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development. The Institute continued to carry out research on democratic governance and women's political participation, and on national implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and security sector reform. Greater emphasis has been placed by the Institute on sustainable capacity-building for gender equality, including the launching of the first gender training collaborative website.

INSTRAW intends to intensify its efforts to increase the visibility of its work as a means to assist Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector and as part of an effective strategy for mobilization of voluntary contributions.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 60/229, the General Assembly requested the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) to coordinate its activities and develop its programme of work in collaboration with other United Nations entities involved in issues related to gender, and to collaborate with the United Nations system, national gender machineries and civil society. It further requested the Institute to participate in and contribute to discussions on issues related to international migration and development, in particular in the context of the 2006 High-level Dialogue thereon, and the examination of the special theme for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development. The Assembly also encouraged the Institute to continue to promote and undertake research and training on gender mainstreaming and to assist countries in promoting political participation and economic and social advancement of women.

2. In its resolution 61/273 on the financial situation of INSTRAW, the General Assembly called upon the Secretary-General to include, in his report on INSTRAW to the Assembly at its sixty-second session, solutions for placing the financial situation of the Institute on a more stable basis without recourse to regular budget funding, in line with the statute of the Institute.[1] The financial situation of the Institute, in particular with regard to the United Nations Trust Fund for INSTRAW, from which the core activities of the Institute are funded, requires further analysis and consultation. The Secretary-General therefore intends to submit a separate report on the financial situation of INSTRAW to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.

3. The present report responds to the mandates contained in resolution 60/229 and covers the period since the submission of the previous report of the Secretary-General on INSTRAW (A/60/372).

II. Activities of the Executive Board of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

4. During the reporting period, the INSTRAW Executive Board held its third and fourth sessions (see E/2006/80 and E/2007/79), at which it formulated principles, guidelines and policies for the activities of the Institute, and approved its work programme and budget proposals in accordance with article III of the statute of the Institute.

5. At its third session, held on 18 May and 2 November 2006, the Executive Board[2] reviewed and approved the workplan and operational budget for 2007 (INSTRAW/EB/2006/R.4/Rev.1) The Board welcomed the report of its Subcommittee on the Resource Mobilization Strategy on the proposed fund-raising strategy (INSTRAW/EB/2006/R.2) and requested the Director to implement fully

[1] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/57, annex, article VI, para. 1.

[2] The membership of the Board for 2004-2006 included Burkina Faso, the Czech Republic, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania and Spain (President), and the host country, the Dominican Republic.

the recommendations of the Subcommittee aimed at enhancing the visibility of INSTRAW, which was a precondition for and a means to enable an effective fund-raising strategy. At its resumed third session, in November 2006, the Executive Board expressed satisfaction with the efforts undertaken to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in implementation of the Institute's work programme for 2006. The Board requested the Institute to undertake new initiatives in research and training, including with regard to violence against women, local governance and women's empowerment, and migration and development; to reinforce research and training networks on gender balance in the United Nations system; to strengthen coordination with United Nations entities and bodies; and to continue efforts to establish sustained and strategic alliances with civil society and the private sector.

6. At its fourth session, held on 2 and 30 May 2007, the Executive Board[3] assessed the progress and challenges facing the Institute in the implementation of the strategic framework for 2004-2007 and approved the strategic framework for 2008-2011. The Board considered a comprehensive report (E/2007/79, annex I) prepared by INSTRAW containing information on the salient outputs of activities undertaken thus far, together with projections for future activities within the thematic areas dealt with by the Institute. It made the following recommendations on the future work of INSTRAW: to further strengthen efforts to raise the visibility and credibility of the Institute; to develop new and update existing gender mainstreaming materials and tools; to intensify its training activities on the basis of lessons learned and replicate best practices; to strengthen institutional arrangements to apply the Institute's tools and guidelines at the country level; to initiate new activities in the fields of poverty alleviation, capacity-building in microenterprises, information and communications technology, health, education, peacebuilding, the environment and other areas of concern to Member States; and to implement innovative methods of work taking advantage of its unique mandate to conduct research and training for the advancement of women.

7. Also at that session, the Executive Board requested the Director of INSTRAW to carry out intensive efforts to mobilize resources in order to obtain sufficient financial resources to implement the proposed operational budget for 2008, and to present a revised programme and budget, reduced by 5 per cent. In addition, the Executive Board requested the Director to formulate, as a matter of urgency, a medium- and long-term resource mobilization strategy, in collaboration with the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP). The Board decided to consider those documents and the Institute's operational budget for 2008 at its resumed session, to be held on 5 September 2007.

III. Strategic frameworks for 2004-2007 and 2008-2011

8. The Institute's strategic framework for 2004-2007 was prepared taking into consideration the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the General Assembly on Beijing +5, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the

[3] The membership of the Executive Board for 2007 includes the following States: Belarus, Egypt, Grenada, Honduras (President), Israel, the Philippines, Slovakia, Spain, the Syrian Arab Republic and Zimbabwe, as well as the host country, the Dominican Republic.

United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security; resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its Commission on the Status of Women; as well as decisions of the INSTRAW Executive Board. The work programme also takes into account the availability of the financial resources necessary to ensure an effective implementation of planned activities. The strategic framework for 2004-2007 emphasized the importance of conducting research, training and information-sharing in a continuous cycle of analysis, learning and action, so that research results feed into the design of training and capacity-building programmes and, ultimately, into policy.

9. The INSTRAW strategic framework for 2008-2011, which is also based on the legislative documents listed above, as well as on specific mandates related to gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women, will carry forward the priorities established in 2004 and also includes new and emerging issues. The Framework consolidates research and training programmes carried out by INSTRAW in specific areas and enhances its knowledge-management capacity to ensure that research results have a concrete impact on policy and programme formulation and implementation. It is envisaged that such an approach would provide the Institute with the flexibility it needs to respond to emerging policy concerns relating to the empowerment of women.

10. The strategic framework for 2008-2011 takes into account new and emerging areas where INSTRAW can make significant contributions. The following thematic priorities in the key areas of United Nations activities such as development, security and human rights, have been established in the framework:

(a) Development: (i) gender, migration, remittances and development; and (ii) the Millennium Development Goals;

(b) Peace and security: the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, including full and equal participation of women in peacekeeping processes and post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding, gender and security sector reform, and the protection of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations;

(c) Human rights: (i) gender, governance and women's political participation, with emphasis on civil, economic and social rights of women, human rights of marginalized groups of women, and trafficking in women and girls; and (ii) increased cooperation with the Commission on the Status of Women and closer cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant United Nations bodies, to contribute to the promotion of and capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

IV. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 60/229

A. Coordination and partnerships for enhanced impact

11. Throughout the reporting period, the Institute has continued to collaborate with other United Nations entities. INSTRAW aims at expanding links and building partnerships with relevant organizations within and outside the United Nations

system for collaborative initiatives, enhancing its visibility and cost-sharing. In line with INSTRAW's strategy to ensure the participation of many different stakeholders in the development and implementation of its programme of work and projects, the Institute has set as a priority the formation of partnerships with representatives of a variety of institutions, including United Nations system entities; governmental organizations and national gender machineries for the advancement of women; academic, research and training institutes; civil society organizations; and the private sector. By partnering with multiple sectors, the Institute ensures the widest possible base for sustainable dialogue aimed at positioning gender in the development agenda.

12. The Institute maintains and continues to enhance its working relationships with all of the United Nations entities involved in gender issues: the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). It maintains close cooperative links with entities such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), the United Nations Communications Group and the Department of Public Information. INSTRAW participates in selected activities with the United Nations country team in the Dominican Republic. It also maintains close links with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

13. INSTRAW is a member of the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, which is coordinated by the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, and participates in several of its task forces, including the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security and the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Secretary-General's In-depth Study on Violence against Women. The Special Adviser participates regularly in the sessions of the INSTRAW Executive Board. The Institute is also a member of UN-Energy, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign, and the Women's Network of the International Action Network on Small Arms.

14. In the context of INSTRAW's work on gender and remittances, a number of United Nations entities have entered into partnerships with the Institute for specific activities. As a result, a series of case studies is being prepared in partnership with (and in some cases with financing from) the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNFPA and the Inter-American Development Bank. The Institute is also collaborating with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and with national institutions such as the South African Institute of International Affairs at the University of Witwatersrand, the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development and the National Statistics Office of the Dominican Republic.

15. Collaborative partnerships are also a key component at the INSTRAW programme on women's political participation. In particular, the three-year project

on "Strengthening governance with a gender perspective and women's political participation at the local level", funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation, brings together many partners from different sectors. This project is being implemented in partnership with United Nations organizations, such as UNIFEM and UNDP, and academic institutions, such as the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences in Argentina and Chile. Foremost, the Institute is working closely with the national gender machineries of Mexico and countries in Central America and the Andean region. In this regard, the Institute has signed an agreement for collaboration with the Council of Women Ministers in Central America. Decentralization entities, political parties, women's organizations, indigenous organizations and non-governmental organizations in these countries also participate in the project activities.

16. Extensive collaborative and networking arrangements have been made in other areas such as gender, peace and security, and capacity-building and training. INSTRAW has developed strategic alliances with various partners for special projects. Included among its partners are the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation, the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the Inter-American Development Bank, IFAD, Italian Development Cooperation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, UNDP, the UNDP Subregional Resource Facility for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNFPA, the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Universidad Complutense Madrid.

17. As a means of contributing to the positioning of gender issues in the international development agenda, INSTRAW created and maintains a gender and media network, which brings together journalists to promote exchange of information on gender issues. The Institute has also established relationships with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and various international media organizations, including Inter Press Service. INSTRAW has also compiled a global directory of media outlets with which it regularly conducts information exchange and media outreach activities.

18. The Institute has also established relationships with the legislative branches of the Governments of the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico and Spain and with regional parliamentary organizations such as the Latin American Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Relationships with academic institutions have also been established: the Universidad Complutense Madrid, the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and New School University (New York), among others.

B. Highlights of the Institute's programme of activities

19. Further to the mandates contained in General Assembly resolution 60/229, the Institute's programmes during the reporting period were built around three major research subprogrammes and various training activities, which are discussed in detail below.

1. Research

20. During 2006 and 2007, the Institute conducted research on the following topics: (a) gender, migration, remittances and development; (b) gender, governance and women's political participation; and (c) gender, peace and security. Research findings, fact sheets, media materials and other tools and materials developed by INSTRAW are available on the Institute's website (http://www.un-instraw.org).

(a) Gender, migration, remittances and development

21. INSTRAW continued its research activities on gender, migration, remittances and development aimed at achieving a better understanding of how gender dimensions (feminization of migration, gender inequalities in access to productive resources, sexual division of labour, gender roles, etc.) affect and determine the interconnectedness of migration and development, utilizing remittances as the key link in that regard. Through gender analysis and mainstreaming activities, INSTRAW aims to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of policies and initiatives to harness the potential of remittances for community and local development; encourage development models that place gender equality as a central objective, and contribute to better understanding of gender dimensions of the Millennium Development Goals.

22. In April 2006, the Institute contributed to the work of the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-ninth session, held in New York, where the findings of INSTRAW's research on gender and remittances were presented to Member States. These findings identify the relevance of gender issues in international migration and development and the need to strengthen research and capacity-building activities, to be conducted in partnership with the United Nations and institutions working on population and development issues.

23. In connection with INSTRAW's work on gender, migration and remittances, the Institute participated in numerous preparatory meetings for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, including the International Symposium on International Migration and Development (organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in Turin, Italy, 28-30 June 2006); the panel discussion on international migration and development (held in Geneva, 4 July 2006); the Economic and Social Council round-table ministerial breakfast to discuss gender dimensions of labour migration (Geneva, 5 July 2006); the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues/IOM Expert Workshop on Indigenous Peoples and Migration (Geneva, 6-7 April 2006); the UNFPA/IOM Expert Group Meeting on Female Migrants: Bridging the Gaps throughout the Lifecycle (New York, 2-3 May 2006); and the Multilateral Investment Fund/Inter-American Development Bank Conference on Sending Money Home: Remittances and Transnational Families (Washington, D.C., 12 May 2006). In addition, the Institute participated and presented its work on gender and remittances at the Ibero-American Meeting on Migration and Development (Madrid, 18-19 July 2006); and the Regional Consultation on Migration, Remittances and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santo Domingo, 27-28 July 2006), which was organized with the assistance of INSTRAW. More recently, the Institute participated in the First Latin American Community Migrant Summit (Mexico, 10-13 May 2007) and in the Global Forum on Migration and Development (Brussels, 10-11 July 2007).

24. During the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (New York, 14-15 September 2006), INSTRAW participated in the round-table on multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, including remittances.

25. Building on its 2005 publication *Crossing Borders: Gender, Remittances and Development* (2005), which outlined the interrelationships between migration, gender, remittances and development, INSTRAW developed a qualitative research methodology, published in *The Development Potential of Remittances: A Gender Perspective*. The methodology can be adapted to different contexts and regions with distinct migration patterns in order to ensure a comparative global mapping of the gender dimensions of women's migration and remittances. The methodology has been adapted for use in a series of case studies in 18 countries around the world. These case studies examine the gender dimensions of migration, including the nature of women's migration, the flow and utilization of remittances and the resulting changes in household and gender roles.

26. On the basis of the conceptual instruments already developed, the empirical data obtained thus far and partnerships in the implementation of its strategic framework for 2008-2011, INSTRAW will focus on applied research and capacity-building activities aimed at policy changes to enhance positive contributions by women migrants and the potential of remittances for gender-sensitive development. The following project summaries present a sample of the issues that will be examined by INSTRAW:

(a) Harnessing the potential of remittances as an instrument for gender-sensitive development, through the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations obtained from a similar project currently being carried out in six countries in partnership with UNDP. Envisaged activities include capacity-building for women in remittance-sending communities and the strengthening of dialogue with stakeholders from the development sector, in order to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations deriving from the results of research undertaken by INSTRAW and its partners;

(b) The impact of women's migration on the household, with special attention to adolescents and children who remain in their country of origin;

(c) Analysis of global care chains and their impacts, aimed at a better understanding of the reorganization of reproductive work at the global level as a result of women's migration;

(d) Strengthening women migrants' rights to improve their living conditions. This project entails capacity-building activities for women migrants and for key stakeholders within the framework of co-development;

(e) Enhancing the gender-sensitive impact of remittances for rural development, aimed at helping female remittance receivers in rural households improve their livelihoods through partnerships with government, civil society and the private sector, in applying a gender-sensitive approach to leveraging remittances for rural development.

(b) Gender, governance and women's political participation

27. In compliance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/229, the Institute has continued its activities to assist countries by promoting and supporting women's political participation. In this strategic area, INSTRAW focuses on women's political participation at the national, regional and local levels and on bringing the gender dimension into the mainstream in local and national governments as a key issue for building democracy. Research conducted by the Institute aims at advancing transformative proposals to enhance the role of women in the political sphere and eliminate discrimination against them. The Institute produces up-to-date and accurate information on democratic governance and on political participation from a gender perspective. Most importantly, the Institute fosters a continuous dialogue among all stakeholders in order to contribute to more inclusive actions and to build shared agendas, thereby contributing to democratic governance with a gender perspective and ultimately to building solid democracies.

28. Among the studies and reports produced within this programme area are the following: *Guide for Women's Leadership at the Local Level* (2006); *Women's Political Participation at the Local Level in Latin America* (2007); *New Gender Machinery at the Local Level in Latin America* (2007); *Participation of Indigenous Women in Governance Processes and Local Governments: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Peru* (2006); *Quota Mechanisms for Women's Political Participation: Experiences from Latin America* (2007); *Women's Political Participation at the Local Level in Latin America* (2007); *Diagnostic: Women's Political Participation in the Andean Region* (2007); *Diagnostic: Women's Political Participation in Central America* (2007); and *Agenda from the Local Perspective* (2007). The complete texts of these studies are available on the Institute's website (http://www.un-instraw.org/participacionpolitica).

29. In 2008-2011, the Institute intends to build on the experience it has gained in the implementation of its research activities in this programme area and to continue its work in the following new areas:

(a) Political participation of women at the national level in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. This project includes three components: research, capacity-building and policy dialogue;

(b) Assessment, review and capacity-building activities to include women in decision-making positions in political parties. Many challenges that women face in public life deal with stereotypes about the role of women in society, as well as with attitudes, behaviours, policies and procedures of political parties. It is crucial to assess and change political parties' attitudes and procedures to include women as candidates on an equal footing with men. Strong capacity-building is needed and thus INSTRAW's programme includes the development of materials and tools to promote women's equal participation within political parties;

(c) Political participation of women at the local level in Latin America and the Caribbean (2009-2011). This project will carry forward the results of the project that is currently being implemented in the Andean region and in Central American countries.

(c) Gender, peace and security

30. Within the area of gender, peace and security, INSTRAW works towards achieving a better understanding of the distinct and often gender-related insecurities faced by women and men during times of both conflict and peace, and to promote gender equality and women's full and equal participation in the realms of peacekeeping, peacebuilding, post-conflict reconstruction and the reform of security institutions. In this regard, it is crucial to build networks and promote dialogue with decision makers, governmental bodies, security institutions, international and regional organizations, civil society and other actors in order to strengthen their understanding and effective response to gender-related insecurities. Information dissemination, awareness-raising, capacity-building, monitoring and evaluation have been used by the Institute to reach these goals.

31. In particular, INSTRAW has been active in promoting the development of national action plans to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). As a first step in this direction, the Institute developed, for the benefit of national policymakers and women's groups, the guide on *Securing Equality, Engendering Peace: A Guide to Policy and Planning on Women, Peace and Security*.

32. INSTRAW also focuses on gender aspects of security sector reform. In this regard, the Institute has created the gender and security sector reform network, which comprises some 170 organizations and individuals working on issues related to gender and security sector reform from all over the world. The Network serves as an active forum for discussion and information exchange. In collaboration with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, INSTRAW has also established the Gender and Security Sector Reform Working Group, which brings together key groups and individuals working on gender and reform of security institutions and serves as an initiator, resource centre and facilitator for efforts to integrate gender issues into initiatives, policies and tools for security sector reform. INSTRAW's global directory of gender, peace and security research institutions is another valuable resource for researchers, practitioners and women's groups that provides up-to-date information on gender, peace and security research institutions.

33. In 2006, INSTRAW signed a five-year renewable agreement with MINUSTAH through which the Institute now serves as both the disaster recovery site and the command centre for evacuation for MINUSTAH. As an extension of this relationship, several activities for bringing gender into the mainstream and for gender training have ensued. For instance, INSTRAW carried out an assessment for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on how to increase female recruitment, which resulted in a number of concrete recommendations that are now being implemented. In June 2007, INSTRAW hosted a train-the-trainers workshop on gender and peacekeeping for senior mission staff of the Department.

2. Capacity-building and training

34. INSTRAW places great emphasis on concrete and sustainable capacity-building for gender equality. In 2006, the Institute developed and launched the first collaborative database on gender training, which uses open-source Wikipedia software to bring together information on courses, materials and centres dedicated to gender training and capacity-building. The INSTRAW gender training website maps gender training courses, materials and centres throughout the world, thereby

offering a comprehensive database of gender training and training materials offered by international, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

35. In order to promote the integration of gender issues into project planning and implementation, INSTRAW has developed and piloted capacity-building courses and materials for responding to violence against women, integrating gender issues into media coverage, encouraging women's political participation at the local level, addressing violence and masculinities with youth, and building gender-equal cities, the latter in conjunction with UNITAR.

36. Financial and human resources permitting, INSTRAW intends to expand its capacity-building and training programme to include a greater diversity of audiences and issues.

V. Conclusions

37. **During the reporting period, INSTRAW continued to collaborate with United Nations system entities, international cooperation agencies, other international organizations, governmental institutions and national gender machineries for the advancement of women, research and training institutes, civil society organizations and the private sector.**

38. **With limited human and financial resources, INSTRAW has made further progress in implementation of its strategic framework for 2004-2007. In the area of gender, migration, remittances and development, the Institute accomplished significant achievements, including its pioneering research, its active participation in intergovernmental discussions on issues related to international migration and development, including the 2006 High-level Dialogue thereon and the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development, and positioning these issues within the international development and human rights agendas. In the areas of gender, peace and security, and women's political participation, the Institute not only conducted innovative and relevant research, in particular on democratic governance and women's political participation and on national implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and security sector reform, but also contributed to the formation of strategic alliances within and outside the United Nations system. In the area of training, INSTRAW has increasingly contributed to sustainable capacity-building for gender equality, including the launching of the first open-source collaborative database on gender training. The Institute has made use of innovative and emerging technologies in order to encourage the formation of long-distance and virtual working relationships that allow the Institute to expand its outreach and contribute towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women.**

39. **Under the guidance of the INSTRAW Executive Board, the Institute developed its strategic framework for 2008-2011, expanding its research and training activities to new areas, in particular in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. In the period 2008-2011, INSTRAW will continue its work related to gender, migration, remittances and development within the context of broad partnerships in order to promote the protection of migrant women's rights and contribute towards harnessing the potential of**

remittances for local development and the achievement of the Goals. In integrating a gender perspective into peace and security issues, INSTRAW will focus on women's full and equal participation in peacekeeping processes and post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding, gender and security sector reform and the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). The Institute will also integrate gender perspectives into gender, governance and women's political participation, with emphasis on women's civil, economic and social rights and the human rights of marginalized groups of women.

40. **In carrying out its activities, the Institute will increase cooperation with the Commission on the Status of Women and with other commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other relevant United Nations bodies, work in close cooperation with the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and will further develop relationships with international institutions within and outside the United Nations system.**

41. **Building on its achievements in 2004-2007, INSTRAW intends to intensify its efforts to increase the visibility of its work and its impact as a means to assist Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector by providing high quality research and training on gender equality and women's empowerment, and as an essential component of an effective strategy for mobilization of voluntary contributions for the Institute's core budget and projects.**

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Sixty-second session
Item 116 (h) of the provisional agenda*
Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 31/192 of 22 December 1976, provide as follows:

> **"Article 2**
>
> "1. The Unit shall consist of not more than eleven Inspectors, chosen from among members of national supervision or inspection bodies, or from among persons of a similar competence on the basis of their special experience in national or international administrative and financial matters, including management questions. The Inspectors shall serve in their personal capacity.
>
> "2. No two Inspectors shall be nationals of the same State.
>
> **"Article 3**
>
> "1. Starting from the thirty-second session of the General Assembly, in 1977, the President of the General Assembly shall consult with Member States to draw up, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution and of reasonable rotation, a list of countries which would be requested to propose candidates who meet the qualifications mentioned in article 2, paragraph 1, above.
>
> "2. The President of the General Assembly, through appropriate consultations, including consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and with the Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination [United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination], shall review the qualifications of the proposed candidates. After further consultations, if necessary, with the States concerned, the President of the General Assembly shall submit the list of candidates to the Assembly for appointment.
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> ...

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"Article 4

"1. The duration of the appointments of the Inspectors shall be five years, renewable for one further term ...".

"2. An Inspector appointed to replace one whose term of office has not expired shall hold office for the remainder of that term, provided it is not less than three years. Otherwise the duration of the appointment shall be for a full term.

"3. An Inspector may resign on giving six months' notice to the Chairman of the Unit.

"...

"5. The Chairman of the Unit shall notify the Secretary-General of any vacancy for the necessary administrative action. Such notification shall make the post vacant."

2. On 11 July 2007, Inspector Juan Luis Larrabure (Peru) submitted his resignation, effective 30 September 2007, to the Chairperson of the Joint Inspection Unit. Inspector Larrabure was appointed by the General Assembly on 6 June 2003 for a five-year term of office, beginning on 1 January 2004 and expiring on 31 December 2008. In accordance with article 4, paragraph 5, of the statute, the Chairperson notified the Secretary-General on 11 July 2007 of the vacancy and of her decision to waive the requirement of six months' notice stipulated in article 4, paragraph 3, of the statute. It will therefore be necessary for the Assembly, at its sixty-second session, to appoint one person to fill the resulting vacancy. In accordance with article 4, paragraph 2, of the statute, the person so appointed will serve for a full term. In order for consultations to be held, as stipulated in article 3, and to align the term of office with that of the other Inspectors, the Assembly may wish to consider filling the vacancy for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2008 and expiring on 31 December 2012.

3. By its decision 61/421, the General Assembly appointed five members to the Joint Inspection Unit for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2008 and expiring on 31 December 2012. As at 1 January 2008, the Joint Inspection Unit will be composed of the following members:

Mr. Gérard Biraud (France)**

Mr. Nikolay V. Chulkov (Russian Federation)***

Mr. Papa Louis Fall (Senegal)**

Mr. Even Francisco Fontaine Ortiz (Cuba)***

Mr. Tadanori Inomata (Japan)*

Mr. Mohamed Mounir-Zahran (Egypt)***

Mr. István Posta (Hungary)**

Mr. Cihan Terzi (Turkey)**

Ms. Deborah Wynes (United States of America)***

Mr. Zhang Yishan (China)***

* Term of office expires on 31 December 2009.
** Term of office expires on 31 December 2010.
*** Term of office expires on 31 December 2012.

4. Following the consultations described in article 3, paragraph 1, of the statute, the President of the General Assembly will determine the country that will be requested to propose candidates who meet the qualifications mentioned in article 2, paragraph 1.

5. Additionally, in its resolution 59/267, the General Assembly stressed the importance of ensuring that candidates have experience in at least one of the following fields: oversight, audit, inspection, investigation, evaluation, finance, project evaluation, programme evaluation, human resources management, management, public administration, monitoring and/or programme performance, as well as knowledge of the United Nations system and its role in international relations.

6. After holding the consultations described in article 3, paragraph 2, of the statute, including consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and with the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the President of the General Assembly will submit the name of the candidate to the Assembly for appointment.